

ABM SPECIAL STUDY GROUP

Minutes of Meeting Held 19 December 1969
Central Intelligence Agency
Room 7D56, Langley
1000-1200 Hours

25X1A

Chairman - [REDACTED]

NIPE

Attendance

25X1A

[REDACTED]

CIA

CIA

DDR&E

Col. Lester Rentmeester

DIA

25X1A

[REDACTED]

SAFSS

Lt. Cdr. John Donis

SAFSS

Major Wilburt Craig

State

Mr. Richard Bogosian

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[REDACTED]

NSA

NSA

NIPE

NIPE

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1. [REDACTED] opened the meeting by asking for reactions to the comments received from NSA, DIA, State, and DDR&E on the ABM Study. He noted that comments from Mr. Froehlke, CIA, and AFSSP are in process.

2. Mr. Belt stated that the overall tenor of the comments appeared to be favorable. He believed that the Study Committee could and should resolve State's concern with Recommendation 2 of the Study. Otherwise, he believed that the two recommendations made by Gen. Philpott would satisfy the comments received so far. These recommendations are: 1) the creation of a short-lived panel to evaluate the technical aspects of the Study's methodology (which would include such associated topics as the precision required for inputs, both values and system capabilities, but would not include specification of values or probabilities of acquisition); and 2) the creation of an interagency group to make recommendations to USIB as to the best way to structure and assign relative values to overall intelligence needs. He suggested that these recommendations be put into effect simultaneously.

3. [REDACTED] concurred with the idea of an independent panel to evaluate the methodology and indicated agreement with the concept of a USIB list of priorities. He indicated that NSA would not approve further distribution of the Study or extension of the work without the above being done. [REDACTED] agreed with these comments.

4. Col. Rentmeester indicated that those who had been briefed on the Study at DDR&E were all for it. They believe, however, that the methodology needs refinement and extension before the results can be used for decision-making. He made specific mention of DDR&E's requirements for: measures of cost-effectiveness, an improved set of objectives for measurement (including higher values for technical intelligence), and inclusion of AES and SALT.

5. [REDACTED] offered the suggestion that serious consideration be given to simplification of the right-hand side of the network (observables) in order to make studies of broader scope more manageable. He thought the ABM Study might be used to test any concepts developed.

6. Mr. Bogosian said that there were a number of questions before the Committee. These included: 1) Who is to review the Study? 2) To what extent is the ABM Study (as opposed to future application of the methodology)

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to be the issue of such review? 3) What kind of standard is to be used for evaluation of the Study? 4) What is to be USIB's role with regard to the processes being discussed? 5) What is to be NIRB's role? and 6) What is to be done to close the books on BOB's request? He went on to note that all members expressed concern about the need for cost measures and about relative values and that State was also interested in the extent to which operational and policy considerations (e.g., SALT) should be considered.

25X1A 7. Cdr. Donis agreed with the idea of a panel to evaluate methodology and thought [REDACTED] idea of separate value structures had merit. He, too, thought costs a problem.

25X1A 8. [REDACTED] then summed up. He stated that all who worked on the Study should derive satisfaction from the comments. He called attention to the positive theme of the comments: they stress shortcomings and ways to proceed, not whether or not such work is useful.

9. The meeting concluded with general agreement that terms of reference should be drafted for a panel on methodology and for an interagency group on the structure and relative values of overall intelligence needs. DIA, NSA, and NIPE are to draft such terms of reference. Committee members are to give consideration to the persons to serve on the panel to evaluate methodology and to the possibility of a third set of terms of reference for an interagency group on collector capabilities. NIPE also is to prepare a draft letter, for the DCI's signature, to transmit the ABM Study to BOB. Drafts of all of the above are to be circulated to Committee members as soon as possible.

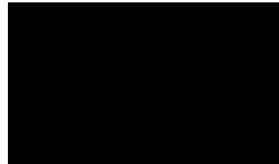
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[REDACTED]
Executive Secretary

MEMORANDUM FOR:

We trust the minutes reflect the sense of the Group. If you think not, or that they are unfair in any respect, please let me know.

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29 December 69
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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